

Claims: The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.

1-36. (CANCELLED)

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An amino acid composition comprising:

- a) an amino acid component having an unpleasant taste comprising one or more amino acids or mixtures thereof, wherein said amino acid is not solely arginine or solely creatine, and
- b) ~~sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the amino acid component, comprising, based upon the weight of the amino acid component, from 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition, wherein said~~
sucralose is present in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the amino acid component.

38. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition.

39. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition.

40. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37 wherein said amino acid component is selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, and mixtures thereof.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37 wherein said amino acid component additionally comprises an amino acid analog selected from the group

consisting of the hydroxy analogs and keto analogs of the amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, and mixtures thereof.

42. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37 wherein said amino acid comprises a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.
43. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 37, wherein said amino acid component is a mixture of amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine and L-valine.
44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A protein hydrolysate composition comprising:
 - a) a protein hydrolysate component having an unpleasant taste, and
 - b) sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the protein hydrolysate component, comprising, ~~based upon the weight of the protein hydrolysate component, from 0.001~~ 0.1 to about 15 dry weight % of the protein hydrolysate component of the composition.
45. (CANCELLED)
46. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 44 wherein sucralose is present in a amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the protein hydrolysate component of the composition.
47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of masking the unpleasant taste of an amino acid component in an amino acid containing composition, said method comprising adding to a composition containing at least one unpleasant tasting amino acid, other than arginine

- and creatine, sucralose, comprising, ~~based upon the weight of the amino acid component,~~
from 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition.
48. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition.
49. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the amino acid component of the composition.
50. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein said amino acid component is selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, and L-valine, and mixtures thereof.
51. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein said amino acid component additionally comprises an amino acid analog selected from the group consisting of the hydroxy analogs and keto analogs of the amino acids selected from the analogs of the group of amino acids consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, and mixtures thereof.
52. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein said amino acid component consists of a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.
53. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 47 wherein said amino acid component is a mixture of amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-histidine,

L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine and L-valine.

54. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of masking the unpleasant taste of a protein hydrolysate component in a protein hydrolysate containing composition, said method comprising adding to a composition containing an unpleasant tasting protein hydrolysate, sucralose, based upon the weight of the protein hydrolysate component, from 0.001 to about ~~15~~ 12 dry weight % of the protein hydrolysate component of the composition.
55. (CANCELLED)
56. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 54 wherein sucralose is added in a amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the protein hydrolysate component of the composition.